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United Way

United Way of Jefferson County

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October 6, 2014

The Honorable John Kasich
Governor of Ohio
Riffee Center, 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

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PUCO

Dear Governor Kasich:

I am urging your support of FirstEnergy's proposed Electric Security Plan, ***Powering Ohio's Progress***

FirstEnergy's plan will help ensure the continued operation of a major employer in the Ohio Valley, the W.H. Sammis Plant, a 2,200 megawatt baseload power generating facility in Stratton, Ohio.

As of today, the long-term viability of this plant, along with the substantial economic benefits it delivers to our community and others could be at risk. You may be aware that power generators like FirstEnergy have been challenged in recent years by regulatory issues and market pressures that have led to the closing of many of Ohio's largest power plants and more plant retirements are anticipated.

The Sammis Plant plays a significant role in sustaining our local economy. The Plant directly employs more than 400 people with an annual payroll of $34 million. Many of these employees live in Jefferson County. FirstEnergy is also the largest taxpayer in Jefferson County, with the plant expected to generate about $5.5 million in annual property tax revenues to local jurisdictions in 2014. The Sammis plant also supports the local economy with millions of dollars each year in vendor purchases, employee spending and property ownership.

We truly appreciate FirstEnergy's continued investment in our community and hope you will support this plan to help Ohio become more energy independent. In the meantime, we would appreciate it if your staff could docket this letter as part of the record in this proceeding (PUCO Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO).

Respectfully,

Beth Rupert-Warren
Executive Director

cc: Thomas W. Johnson, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

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